

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 19, 2008

The Honorable Alan B. Mollohan
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice & Science
Committee on Appropriations
H-310 Capitol
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rodney P. Frelinghuysen
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice & Science
Committee on Appropriations
H-310 Capitol
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Mollohan and Ranking Member Frelinghuysen,

We are writing to thank you for your past support for the National Science Foundation (NSF) and to ask you to continue that support in the FY 2009 appropriations bill. Our request is to uphold the fiscal year 2009 funding level of the American COMPETES Act of \$7.326 billion for the National Science Foundation.

In 2007, a pathway was established to double the budget of the NSF over the course of 10 years. The priority recommendation of an esteemed panel of the National Academies, the *Rising Above the Gathering Storm* report, served as the catalyst for Congress and the Administration to find consensus on the doubling path for the physical sciences. The National Academies' convincing report warned that the U.S. must invest in fundamental research or our innovation pipeline will deteriorate.

Despite the evidence and overwhelming support for the COMPETES Act, which was signed into law in August 2007, funding for NSF fell short of the ten-year doubling path in both the FY07 and FY08 appropriations cycles. Cumulatively, NSF was funded \$500 million below the request in the past two years. Our request – as authorized by the COMPETES Act – adds this amount to the funding requested for NSF by the Administration in FY09 (\$6.854 billion) in order to restore these deficits. This will put the NSF back on its doubling path.


A renewed commitment to core basic research and educational programs at NSF is essential to meet the enormous promise of scientific innovation, to better train future scientists, engineers, and technicians, and to promote the success of multidisciplinary initiatives, including biotechnology and nanotechnology. We now need to make substantial investments in the physical sciences and engineering. NSF is the core agency for these endeavors.

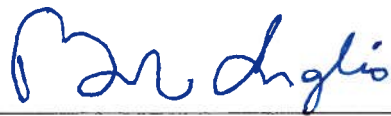
Past investments in NSF have contributed greatly to major technological advances in areas and industries that are critical for U.S. economic growth and defense. We respectfully request that you continue the flow of such advances in the FY09 budget by funding NSF at \$7.326 billion.

Sincerely,

1	Neil	Abercrombie	46	Jim	Gerlach	91	Dennis	Moore
2	Thomas	Allen	47	Wayne	Gilcrest	92	Jim	Moran
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5	Brian	Baird	50	Alcee	Hastings	95	Richard	Neal
6	Tammy	Baldwin	51	Doc	Hastings	96	James	Oberstar
7	Roscoe	Bartlett	52	Stephanie	Herseht Sandlin	97	Solomon	Ortiz
8	Shelley	Berkley	53	Baron	Hill	98	Frank	Pallone
9	Howard	Berman	54	Maurice	Hinchey	99	Bill	Pascrell
10	Judy	Biggert	55	Rueben	Hinohosa	100	Ron	Paul
11	Brian	Bilbray	56	Paul	Hodes	101	Donald	Payne
12	Tim	Bishop	57	Rush	Holt	102	Ed	Perlmutter
13	Earl	Blumenauer	58	Darlene	Hooley	103	Thomas	Petri
14	Leonard	Boswell	59	Bob	Inglis	104	Todd	Platts
15	Rick	Boucher	60	Jay	Inslee	105	Deb	Pryce
16	Nancy	Boyda	61	Darrell	Issa	106	Jim	Ramstad
17	Bruce	Braley	62	Sheila	Jackson-Lee	107	Thomas	Reynolds
18	Corrine	Brown	63	William	Jefferson	108	Mike	Rogers
19	Steve	Buyer	64	Tim	Johnson	109	Mike	Rogers
20	Dave	Camp	65	EB	Johnson	110	Pete	Roskam
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32	Bill	Delahunt	77	Carolyn	Maloney	122	Lamar	Smith
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37	Chet	Edwards	82	Jim	McGovern	127	John	Tierney
38	Vern	Ehlers	83	John	McHugh	128	Niki	Tsongas
39	Eliot	Engel	84	Mike	McIntyre	129	Chris	Van Hollen
40	Phil	English	85	Jerry	McNerny	130	Diane	Watson
41	Anna	Eshoo	86	Michael	McNulty	131	Henry	Waxman
42	Bob	Etheridge	87	Gregory	Meeks	132	Robert	Wexler
43	Bob	Filner	88	Michael	Michaud	133	Charles	Wilson
44	Jeff	Fortenberry	89	Brad	Miller	134	Robert	Wittman
45	Barney	Frank	90	Harry	Mitchell	135	David	Wu

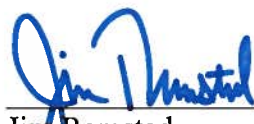

Vernon J. Ehlers
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Rush Holt
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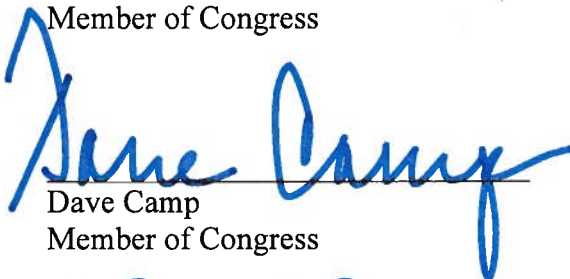

Zoe Lofgren
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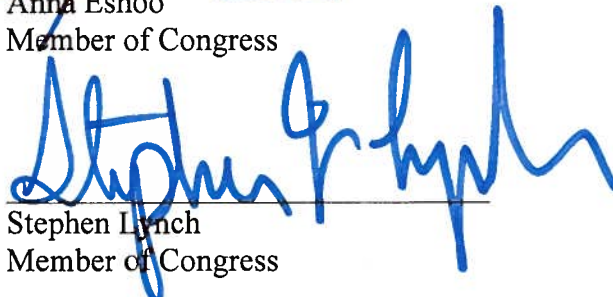

Mike Rogers (MI)
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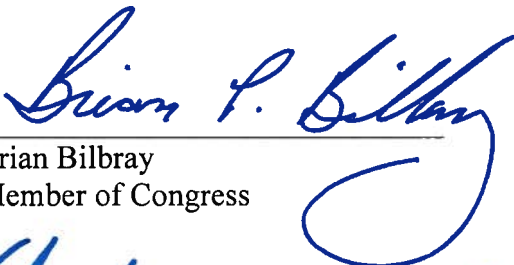

Stephen Lynch
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Doris Matsui
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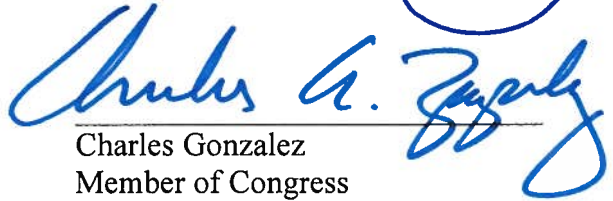

Baron Hill
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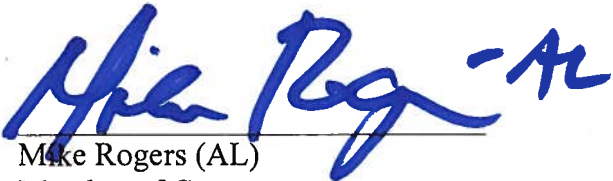

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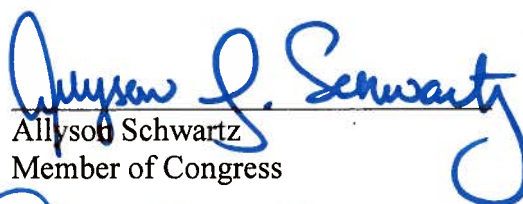
Ed Perlmutter
Member of Congress



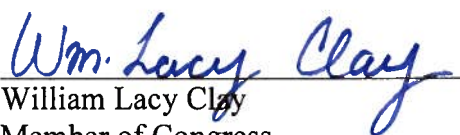
Chris Carney
Member of Congress



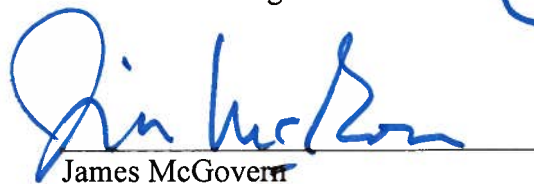
David Scott
Member of Congress



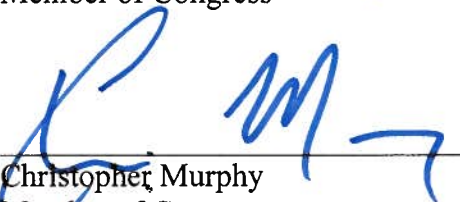
Allyson Schwartz
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William Lacy Clay
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Christopher Murphy
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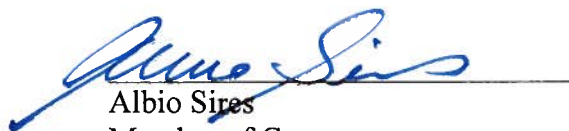
Paul Hodes
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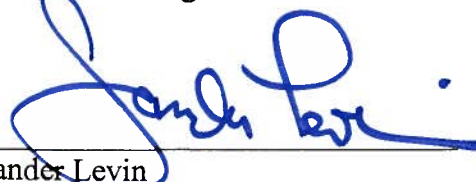
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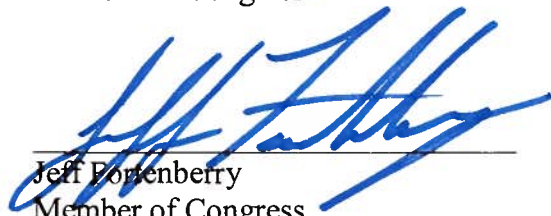
Carol Shea-Porter
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Jeff Fortenberry
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Susan Davis
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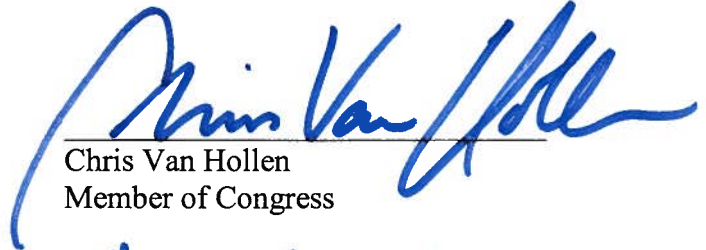
Bob Etheridge
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Russ Carnahan
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Nancy Boyda
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Dan Lipinski
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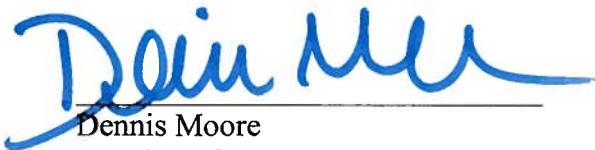
Betty Sutton
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Brad Miller
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Michael Michaud
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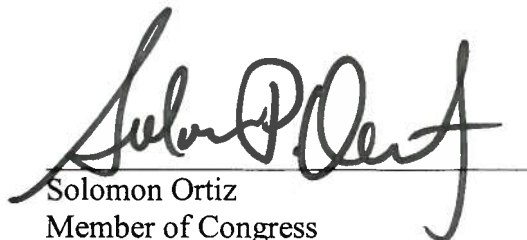
Dennis Moore
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Edward Markey
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Solomon Ortiz
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Eliot Engel
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Henry Waxman
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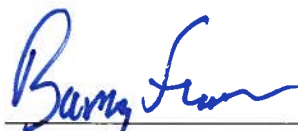
Jim Saxton
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Niki Tsongas
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Jim Moran
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Barney Frank
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John Dingell
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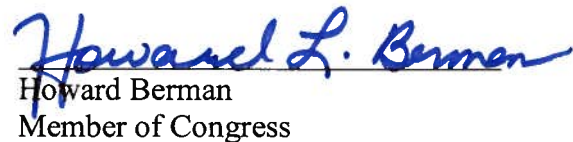
Rick Boucher
Member of Congress



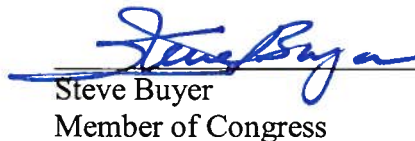
John Duncan
Member of Congress



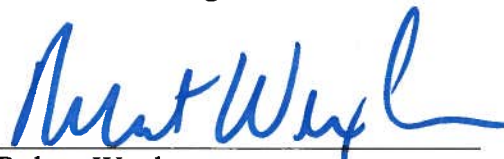
Michael McNulty
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Howard Berman
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Steve Buyer
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Robert Wexler
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Earl Blumenauer
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Carolyn Maloney
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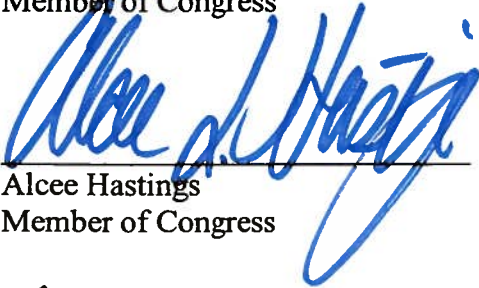
Phil English
Member of Congress



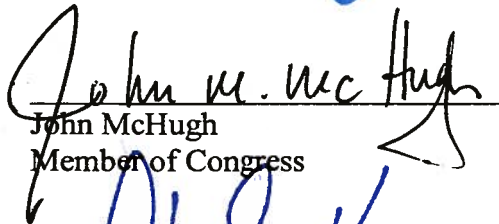
Corrine Brown
Member of Congress



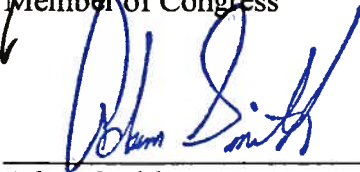
Gregory Meeks
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Alcee Hastings
Member of Congress



John McHugh
Member of Congress



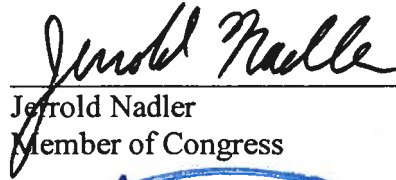
Adam Smith
Member of Congress



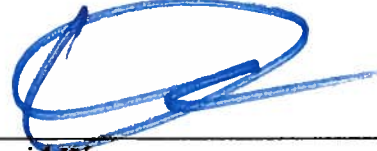
Lamar Smith
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Diana DeGette
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Jerrold Nadler
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David Wu
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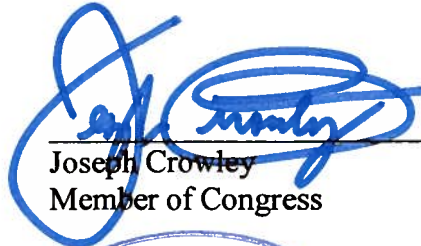
Tom Davis
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James Oberstar
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Chet Edwards
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Joseph Crowley
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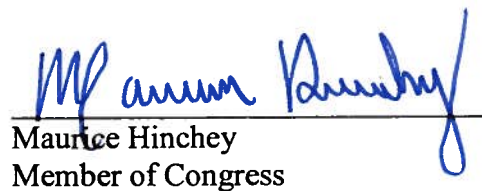


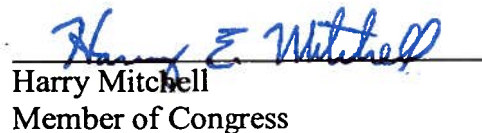
Roseoe Bartlett
Member of Congress



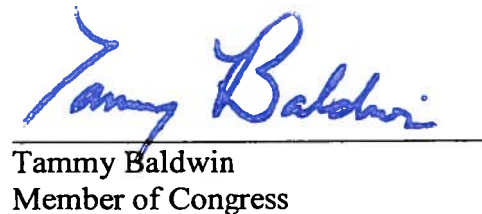
Bob Filner
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Darlene Hooley
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Maurice Hinchey
Member of Congress

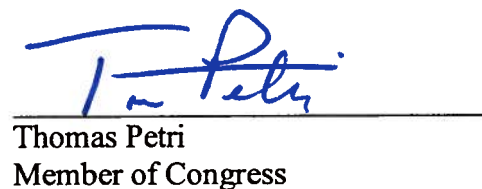

Harry Mitchell
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Mike McIntyre
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Tammy Baldwin
Member of Congress

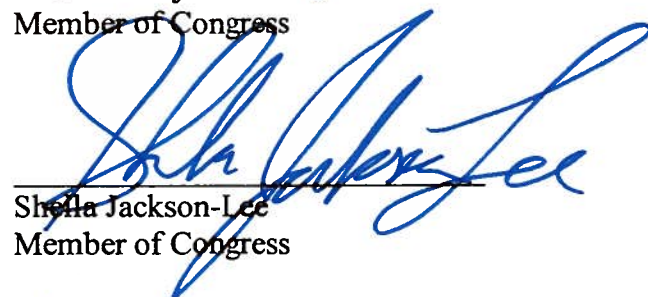

William Delahunt
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Ellen Tauscher
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Thomas Petri
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Ruben Hinojosa
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Louise McIntosh Slaughter
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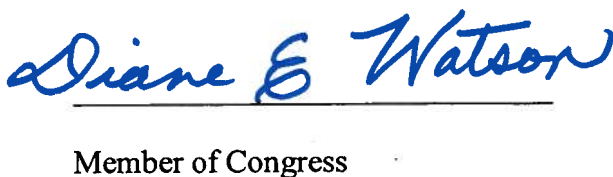

Sheila Jackson-Lee
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Wayne Gilchrest
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William Jefferson
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Member of Congress

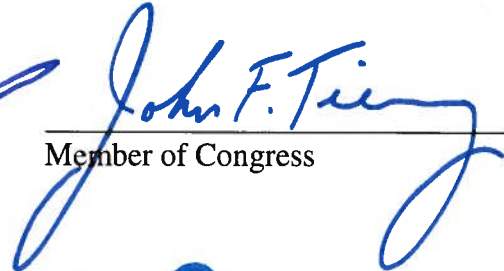

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